

# EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

## Patent Abstracts of Japan

PUBLICATION NUMBER : 10256346  
PUBLICATION DATE : 25-09-98

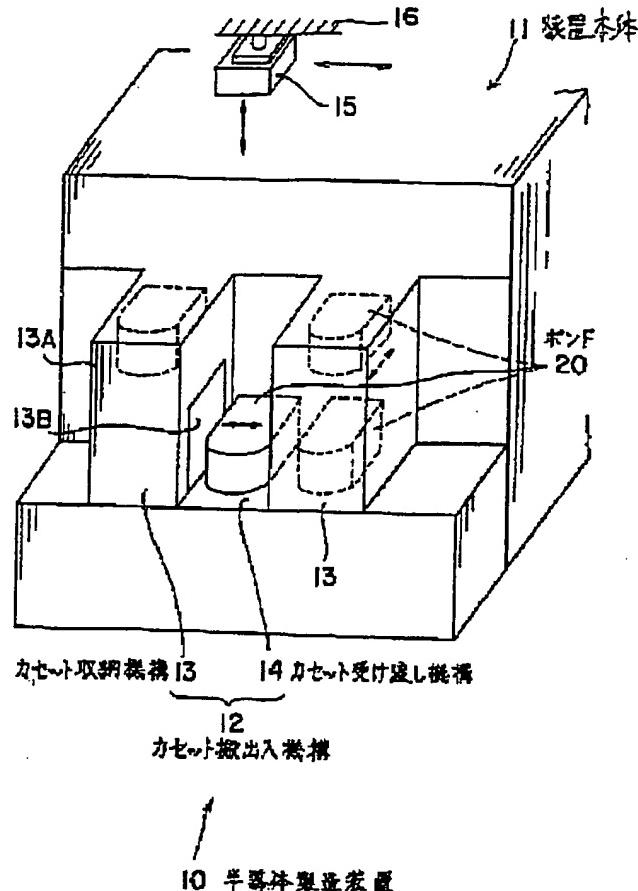
APPLICATION DATE : 13-03-97  
APPLICATION NUMBER : 09078914

APPLICANT : TOKYO ELECTRON LTD;

INVENTOR : ASAKAWA TERUO;

INT.CL. : H01L 21/68 B65G 49/07

TITLE : CASSETTE TRANSFERRING MECHANISM AND SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING APPARATUS



ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To reduce the footprint and elevate the availability by placing a cassette housing mechanism for stacking cassette inside at a work entrance and a cassette transfer mechanism at the side thereof.

SOLUTION: A semiconductor manufacturing apparatus 10 for treating works as specified has a work entrance, cassette housing mechanism 13 for stacking cassettes 20 inside is disposed at this entrance and a transfer mechanism 14 for transferring the cassettes 20 with the housing mechanism 13 is disposed at the side of the mechanism 13 or e.g. between a pair of right and left cassette housing mechanism 13 housed in cassette housing chambers 13A having openings facing the side face of the transfer mechanism 14 with doors 13B for opening the openings when loading/unloading the cassettes 20.

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